

The speed bump is an increased hazard to the unwary ... A challenge to the daredevil ... A disruption to the movement of emergency vehicles ... A winter snow plow hazard ... And the cause of an undesirable increase in noise.

The City and State are responsible for designing, building and maintaining safe roadways throughout the City. This means the provision of a smooth traveled way, void of abrupt discontinuities. If we were to allow the construction of a speed bump on our City roads, we would be creating a point of discontinuity which could lead to accidents, and liability.

Courts have held public agencies liable for personal injuries resulting from faulty design. Speed bumps have considerable potential for personal liability suits, therefore many jurisdictions, including the City, have rejected them as a standard traffic control device on public streets.

Do they work to slow traffic? - NO. Tests of various experimental designs have demonstrated the physical inability of a speed bump to successfully control all types of passenger vehicle speeds. An overly high bump can cause damage to the under carriage of a low riding vehicle. A smoother bump may cause an uncontrollable rocking on a smaller vehicle. The driver of a soft sprung vehicle may actually increase speed for a better ride over a bump while the same bump may cause other motorists to lose control. No single type of speed bump has been found to be successful in safely controlling the speed of all types of passenger vehicles. They are therefore, not used.

The control of speeding in residential neighborhoods is a widespread concern which requires persistent law enforcement efforts, not speed bumps.